

econoNews — Wire —

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

August 1, 2002

1. Livestock group developing evaluation factors on confinement sites
2. Public hearing on livestock fees to be held Aug. 6

CONFINEMENT LIVESTOCK GROUP TO DEVELOP EVALUATION FACTORS

DES MOINES – The state committee charged with developing a way to evaluate new construction of large livestock confinements will continue to decide on the environmental and community impact factors next week. The group's fourth meeting will be Aug. 8 and 9 at the DNR office, 7900 Hickman Road, Urbandale.

The meeting on Aug. 8 will begin with public participation at 9 a.m., followed by a presentation from Iowa State University on bacteria and pathogens in manure.

Aug. 8

9:00 a.m., Welcome & public participation

(5 minutes per presenter, 30 minutes total)

Jon Linn, William Penn University

Elizabeth Horton Plasket, Iowa Environmental Council

9:30 a.m., Bacteria and pathogens in manure (ISU)

10:00 a.m., Action on minutes of prior meeting

10:45 a.m., Focusing the factors

Use of TAGS

Application of standards

1:45 p.m., Development of matrix options

5:00 p.m., Closing remarks

Aug. 9

8:00 a.m., Development of matrix options continued

3:45 p.m., Discussion on next meeting's agenda

4:00 p. m., Closing remarks

The matrix must be drafted by Sept. 1, 2002, to meet a March 1, 2003, deadline for implementation. After March 1, 2003, county boards of supervisors may use the master matrix to evaluate construction permit applications if they have first submitted a construction evaluation resolution to the DNR.

Four more meeting dates have been scheduled, including Aug. 14 and 15, and Aug. 21 and 22, if needed.

Meetings are open to the public and a complete agenda is available on the DNR website at <http://www.state.ia.us/dnr/organiza/epd/wastewtr/feedlot/feedlt.htm>. For more information, contact Christine Spackman, recorder and environmental program supervisor, at (515) 281-7276 or at Christine.Spackman@dnr.state.ia.us.

For more information, contact Karen Grimes at (515) 281-2135.

PUBLIC HEARING ON LIVESTOCK FEES TO BE HELD

The DNR is seeking public comments on a proposal to charge fees for confinement feeding operations that submit an original manure management plan or apply for a construction permit. A public hearing will be held Aug. 6 at 1 p.m. in the fifth floor conference room of the Wallace Building in Des Moines.

Starting June 18, confinement operations seeking a construction permit must pay a \$250 fee with their application and another \$250 with the accompanying manure management plan.

“Confinement feeding operations that need just a new manure management plan need to submit a \$250 fee along with the plan,” said Reza Khosravi, acting supervisor of the DNR animal feeding operations section.

The new fees were established by the recently passed livestock legislation, Senate File 2293.

A new rule was filed and adopted emergency in June, but the DNR is also seeking public comments through the normal rulemaking process. The public can comment on the fees on or before Aug. 6 by sending written comments to Sara Smith, DNR, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034 or by Fax to (515) 281-6794.

For more information, contact Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135.